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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/450,384 | 11/29/1999 | MARK A. MARS | 11141.80952 | 7554 |

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BANNER & WITCOFF LTD
TEN SOUTH WACKER DRIVE
SUITE 3000
CHIAGO, IL 606067407

| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| CHIANG, JACK | |
| **ART UNIT** | **PAPER NUMBER** |
| 2642 | |

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 09/450,384 | MARS ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Jack Chiang | 2642 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *03 February 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-6 and 8-16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-6, 8-16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

## CLAIMS

1. In view of the appeal brief filed on 02-03-05, PROSECUTION IS HEREBY REOPENED. A new ground of rejection is set forth below.

To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or,

(2) request reinstatement of the appeal.

If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted. See 37 CFR 1.193(b)(2).

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-6, 8-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pferd et al. (US 3112147) in view of Deluca (US4176257) ***or*** Rribley, Jr (US 3610810).

Regarding claim 1, Pferd shows:

A front substantially planar surface (20);

At least one pair of punch down terminal strips (11), each terminal strip includes a first termination area (first 12-16 in fig. 1) and a plurality of additional termination area (see 13a, 17 in fig. 1), each termination area of a particular punch down terminal strip is electrically coupled in series by the particular punch down terminal strip to every other termination area of the same punch down terminal strip (see 11 in fig. 1).

Pferd differs from the claimed invention in that it does not show input-wire-pair labeling region and output-wire-pair-destination-labeling region, such as labeling region in line with the wire pairs and labeling region located laterally with the wire pairs, in other words, row and column labeling.

However, Deluca and Fribley both teach providing a row and column labeling (T, R, 1-99 in figs. 1 and 3 in Deluca; 1-3, A-C in figs. 6 and 10 in Fribley) of the input-wire-pair labeling region (i.e. T-R in Deluca; 1-8 in Fribley) and output-wire-pair-destination-labeling region (i.e. 1-99 in Duluca; A-C in Fribley) on the front surface of a connector block, and the output-wire-pair-destination-labeling regions that are laid out along an axis that is substantially transverse to an axis along which a plurality of input wire pairs is labeled.

Hence, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to modify Pferd with a row and column labeling of the wire pairs as taught by Deluca or Fribley, this is commonly seen in the communication terminals, such as the labeling of the wire pairs to indicate the specific types of functions for the lines, or where the pair of wires go, shown by Deluca and Fribley, the advantage of such labeling is to make readily visible

identifications for each and every service drop to each and every room locations (col. 1, lines 40-49 in Fribley, see also col. 3, lines 38-43 in Deluca).

Regarding claim 11, Pferd shows the steps of:

Connecting a plurality of paired input wire to a plurality of pairs of terminal strip (i.e. first 12-16 in fig. 1)'

Connecting a plurality of paired output wires (13a, 17 in fig. 1) to each of the plurality of pairs of terminal strips;

Pferd differs from the claimed invention in that it does not show input-wire-pair labeling region and output-wire-pair-destination-labeling region, such as labeling region in line with the wire pairs and labeling region located laterally with the wire pairs, in other words, row and column labeling.

However, Deluca and Fribley both teach providing a row and column labeling (T, R, 1-99 in figs. 1 and 3 in Deluca; 1-3, A-C in figs. 6 and 10 in Fribley) of the input-wire-pair labeling region (i.e. T-R in Deluca; 1-8 in Fribley) and output-wire-pair-destination-labeling region (i.e. 1-99 in Duluca; A-C in Fribley) on the front surface of a connector block, and the output-wire-pair-destination-labeling regions that are laid out along an axis that is substantially transverse to an axis along which a plurality of input wire pairs is labeled.

Hence, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to modify Pferd with a row and column labeling of the wire pairs as taught by Deluca or Fribley, this is commonly seen in the communication terminals, such as the labeling of the wire pairs to indicate

the specific types of functions for the lines, or where the pair of wires go, shown by Deluca and Fribley, the advantage of such labeling is to make readily visible identifications for each and every service drop to each and every room locations (col. 1, lines 40-49 in Fribley, see also col. 3, lines 38-43 in Deluca).

Regarding claim 14, Pferd shows the steps of:

Connecting a plurality of paired input wire to a plurality of pairs of terminal strip (i.e. first 12-16 in fig. 1)'

Connecting a plurality of paired output wires (13a, 17 in fig. 1) to each of the plurality of pairs of terminal strips;

Pferd differs from the claimed invention in that it does not show input-wire-pair labeling region and output-wire-pair-destination-labeling region, such as labeling region in line with the wire pairs and labeling region located laterally with the wire pairs, in other words, row and column labeling.

However, Deluca and Fribley both teach providing a row and column labeling (T, R, 1-99 in figs. 1 and 3 in Deluca; 1-3, A-C in figs. 6 and 10 in Fribley) of the input-wire-pair labeling region (i.e. T-R in Deluca; 1-8 in Fribley) and output-wire-pair-destination-labeling region (i.e. 1-99 in Duluca; A-C in Fribley) on the front surface of a connector block, and the output-wire-pair-destination-labeling regions that are laid out along an axis that is substantially transverse to an axis along which a plurality of input wire pairs is labeled.

Hence, it would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to modify Pferd with a row and column labeling of the wire pairs as taught by Deluca or Fribley, this is commonly seen in the communication terminals, such as the labeling of the wire pairs to indicate the specific types of functions for the lines, or where the pair of wires go, shown by Deluca and Fribley, the advantage of such labeling is to make readily visible identifications for each and every service drop to each and every room locations (col. 1, lines 40-49 in Fribley, see also col. 3, lines 38-43 in Deluca).

Regarding claims 2-6, 8-10, 12-13, 14-15, the combination of Pferd and Deluca/Fribley shows:

A wire channel or wire channel hook (see wire channels in fig. 2 in Prerd) which also bundles wires;

The wire channel is located between two pairs of punch down strips (see wire channel and wires in fig. 2);

The wire channel separates a first two pairs of strips from a second pair of strips (see the two channel next to each other in fig. 2);

One tie-wire ring for bundling wires (such as top wire channel in fig. 2);

The strip and insulation (11, 20); and

The labeling (see Deluca and Fribley, see also comments in claim 1).

## ARGUMENT

4. In response to the appeal brief filed 02-03-05, although it appears that Ellsworth is using those letters to label the wiring, however, applicant is arguing that those letters are used to describe the regions. Ellsworth is now replaced by Deluca or Fribley to show the row and column labeling, see rejections above.

This office action is made non-final.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack Chiang whose telephone number is 571-272-7483. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 8:00 to 6:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar, can be reached on is 571-272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jack Chiang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2642

AHMAD MATAR
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600